

Docket Number: 1074-057
Application No. 10/730,583
Amendment B

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By this amendment, claims 1 – 22 are in the application. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claim 19 was rejected as anticipated by Oakberg, US Patent No. 6,473,181. Claim 19 has been amended here to include the subject matter of now-canceled claim 23, which specifies that the means for modulating the polarization of the light beams (the light beams having different wavelengths) includes two photoelastic modulators. Claim 19 is also amended to more particularly point out that the sample for which the birefringence properties are measured is located between the two photoelastic modulators. This dual PEM setup is illustrated, for example, in Fig. 3 in the present application and described in the corresponding portion of the specification.

Applicant submits that nothing in the art of record suggests the combination of amended claim 19. For example, the previously applied Oakberg '181 patent does not mention the sample-between-two-PEMs arrangement of that claim. Accordingly, claim 19 and the claims depending therefrom are now in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, applicant believes that all of the currently pending claims are in condition for allowance, and an early notification to that effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact applicant's attorney at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
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